

June 2012

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. **Green Growth, Resources and Resilience: Environmental Sustainability in Asia and the Pacific**

1. Asian Development Bank February 2012 157 p.
Full Text: <http://beta.adb.org/sites/default/files/green-growth-resources-resilience.pdf>

The report describes an evolving policy landscape characterized by a changing economic reality, rising demand for resources, increasingly apparent impacts of environmental and climate change, and increased risk and uncertainty. It provides new insights into Asian and Pacific resource use trends and outlines key actions, including reforming economic incentives and promoting more inclusive and adaptive governance approaches, that governments can pursue to help bring economic growth strategies in closer alignment with the objective of sustainable development. It also provides examples of strategies for improving resilience to help deal with the increasing levels of risk faced by societies and economies.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

2. **The Little Green Data Book**

- The World Bank May 17, 2012 254 p.
Full Text: <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/EXTSDNET/Resources/Little-Green-Data-Book-2012.pdf>

For many low-income countries, natural capital is a critical asset, making up nearly 36 percent of their total wealth. The poorest communities depend on oceans, forests, and soil productivity for their daily existence, and as they grow, the pressure on land and water is increasing, threatening ecosystems and livelihoods in countries with few resources to cope with the loss. Protecting these vital resources requires reliable data and measurement systems that can ensure they are taken into consideration during development decision making. The report provides part of that equation with comprehensive data on more than 200 countries' natural capital, including agricultural land, forests, protected areas, and water resources, information that can help policymakers, communities and other stakeholders weigh the value of natural resources and their role in development.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

3. Enterprising Women, Thriving Societies

eJournalUSA

March 2012

40 p.

Full Text: <http://iipdigital.usembassy.gov/st/english/publication/2012/03/20120301150120jezrdna0.1616993.html>

This issue of eJournal USA encourages women to pursue their entrepreneurial ambitions. It cites the experiences of businesswomen around the world and features successful women entrepreneurs who can serve as role models. It also identifies barriers and best practices for overcoming them. I hope you will find the contents inspiring and useful.

4. The 2008-09 Recession and Recovery Implications for the Growth and Financial Health of U.S. Agriculture

Paul Sundell and Mathew Shane

23 p.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

May 22, 2012

Full Text: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/wrs1201/wrs1201.pdf>

U.S. agriculture was better positioned than most United States industries entering the recession, was less affected by the recession than most other industries, and is well positioned to continue to do well as the economy recovers.

5. Private-Sector Engagement in Food Security and Agricultural Development

Center for Strategic & International Studies

28 p.

Johanna Nesseth Tuttle

March 29, 2012

Full Text: http://csis.org/files/publication/120329_Nesseth_PrivateSector_web.pdf

With the introduction of Feed the Future (FTF), the U.S. government's program to refocus foreign assistance on agricultural development, the private sector has been named a priority partner. The U.S. food and agriculture sector is a thriving, complex industry that has benefited from a legacy of exceptionally strong partnership with the public sector, says the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

6. The Future of Manufacturing

World Economic Forum

April 24, 2012

84 p.

Full Text: http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_MOB_FutureManufacturing_Report_2012.pdf

Talent, the ability to innovate and the strategic use of public policy will play a significant role in defining manufacturing sector competitiveness in developed and emerging economies going forward, finds the report. It finds that the global manufacturing ecosystem is undergoing a dramatic transformation, with many emerging economies developing significant manufacturing and innovation capabilities, enabling them to produce increasingly complex products, leading to the globalization of manufacturing supply chains. Fading labor rate arbitrage, exposure to currency volatility, sovereign debt pressures and emerging protectionist policies will be countervailing forces to further globalization of manufacturing value chains.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

7. Renewable Energy: Federal Agencies Implement Hundreds of Initiatives

U.S. Government Accountability Office

March 12, 2012

172 p.

Full Text: <http://gao.gov/assets/590/588876.pdf>

Government-wide, 23 agencies and their 130 sub-agencies GAO reviewed implemented nearly 700 renewable energy initiatives in fiscal year 2010. The Departments of Defense (DOD), Agriculture (USDA), Energy (DOE), and the Interior were collectively responsible for almost 60 percent of all initiatives. The initiatives supported a range of renewable energy sources, and the most commonly supported sources were bio-energy, solar, and wind.

8. Financing Green Growth in a Resource-constrained World

World Economic Forum

February 16, 2012

44 p.

Full Text:

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_ENI_FinancingGreenGrowthResourceConstrainedWorld_Report_2012.pdf

The scale and frequency of weather shocks, combined with long-term economic forecasts of climate change effects and fossil fuel costs, are having a political as well as an economic impact. Many developing country governments are changing their approach to infrastructure and industrial planning, choosing to design more sustainable, resilient pathways to economic growth. This strategic shift has been termed "greening the economy" or making a "green growth" transition. Currently, significant private investment is not being attracted to these plans due to a range of perceived risks and the relative novelty of the market. What public-private partnerships can support developing countries to create large-scale, investment-grade blueprints for their green growth strategies? What new financing mechanisms can use targeted public funds to address key risks and leverage a step change in private capital flow into green infrastructure projects?

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

9. Baselines in Environmental Markets: Tradeoffs Between Cost and Additionality

Elizabeth Marshall and Marca Weinberg

8 p.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

February 14, 2012

Full Text: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/eb18/eb18.pdf>

Markets for farm-based environmental services are designed to allow farmers to sell "credits" for environmental improvements in water quality, carbon sequestration, wetlands restoration, and other areas. These markets use an environmental baseline to help determine whether proposed improvements qualify for market credits, and, if so, the number that should be awarded. Selection of a baseline is often a critical and contentious element in the design of environmental service markets. Due to the complexity and costs associated with defining, measuring, and verifying environmental baseline levels across heterogeneous landscapes, program managers may face a tradeoff between the precision with which changes in environmental performance can be estimated and the cost of refining those estimates. This brief focuses on the issues involved in measuring baselines, the strengths and weaknesses of alternative types of baselines, and the tradeoffs involved when selecting a baseline to measure environmental improvement.

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